

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO. 25X1A

TOPIC General Military Information

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EVALUATION see below PLACE OBTAINED [redacted]

DATE OF CONTENT [redacted] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [redacted] DATE PREPARED 11 March 1953

REFERENCES [redacted]

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) [redacted]

REMARKS [redacted]

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SOURCE [redacted]

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[redacted] 1. On 7 February, the barracks installation in Bernburg was occupied by about 300 to 400 soldiers, most of whom were recruits. A battalion allegedly returned from Ruegen Island. The cantonment near Dessau was occupied. Other details were in Potsdam, Neuhaldensleben and Brandenburg. Trucks seen in the installation [redacted]

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2. At about 11 a.m. on 10 February, four 152-mm gun howitzers were being emplaced on the east side of Bornstedterfeld near Potsdam. Four prime movers and 2 prime movers with trailers on which about 60 troops had arrived [redacted] and truck [redacted] were nearby. The observation post was about 1,500 meters from the emplacement. Aiming practice was performed at the emplacement. At 11:15 a.m., gun displacement to the area of the Bornim estate, south of the Fahrlandsee (lake) was performed. Seven soldiers equipped with a commander's telescope on a tripod, an aiming circle on a tripod, a map-mounting board, a field telephone and a cable reel were seen during the displacement. At the same time, a telephone line was strung between the old emplacement and the new observation post.

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3. At 5 p.m. on 12 February, 8 x 100-mm AT guns, several trucks and an undetermined number of half-track vehicles were being detrained at the Wittstock railroad station. [redacted] were identified. A lieutenant colonel and two majors wearing artillery insignia were on the platform. Elements of the unit had probably been unloaded previously. <sup>3</sup> At about noon, two troop trains carrying an undetermined number of 85-mm AA guns and trucks were seen at the Velten railroad station. The trains had arrived from the direction of Schoen-

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1. [redacted] Comment. Same source reported in mid-January that the barracks installation in Bernburg which is believed to quarter the unidentified engineer regiment of the GOFG was occupied beyond capacity and that details were continually detached for training. [redacted]

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It is possible that training details of the regiment are at the places mentioned in paragraph 1. However, as this fact alone would not account for the light occupation of the installation on 7 February, major elements may be stationed in the camp near Dessau-Aken, where the regiment trained also in the summer of 1952.

25X1A 2. [ ] Comment. Bornstedterfeld is known as post training area, mainly for units of the 34th Arty Div (US) which, according to this information, were again practicing there on 10 February.

25X1A 1. [ ] Comment. [ ] an AT unit of the Third Shock Army, probably of the 18th Mecz Div, was being detrained. 25X1B The unit was probably transferred to the training area for advanced combat firing practice. Similar details were observed at the training grounds as early as January 1953. [ ] 25X1A

25X1A 4. [ ] Comment. [ ] the two trains carried units of the 31st AAA Div. As the two trains were standing on one track, 25X1B it probably was only one shipment which, according to records [ ] 25X1B on 12 February went from Boetzow to Neustrelitz where it was observed to be unloaded. [ ] 25X1A

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